

**WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:**

1. A silicone polymer emulsion comprising:
  - a. a silicone polymer;
  - b. a surfactant; and
  - c. a liquid continuous phase comprising a diol, wherein the diol comprises from about 25 to about 100% by weight of the continuous phase.
2. The silicone polymer emulsion of claim 1, wherein the diol comprises ethylene diol, 1,3-trimethylene diol, 1,3-propylene diol, tripropylene diol, 1,4-butanediol, 1,5-pentanediol, 1,6 hexanediol, 1,7-heptanediol, 1,8-octanediol, 1,9-nonanediol, neopentyl diol, cis- or trans cyclohexanedimethanol, cis or trans 2,2,4,4-tetramethyl-1,3 cyclobutanediol, diethylene diol, or a mixture thereof.
3. The silicone polymer emulsion of claim 1, wherein the continuous phase comprises water.
4. The silicone polymer emulsion of claim 1, wherein the continuous phase comprises from about 1 to about 75% by weight water.
5. The silicone polymer emulsion of claim 1, wherein the surfactant comprises alkali metal, ammonium salts of alkyl, aryl or alkylaryl sulfonates, sulfates, phosphates, alkyl and alkylaryl polydiol ethers, ethoxylation products of lauryl, oleyl and stearyl alcohols, alkyl phenol glycol ethers, ethoxylation products of octyl or nonylphenol, or a mixture thereof.
6. The silicone polymer emulsion of claim 1, wherein the silicone polymer comprises homo or copolymers of polydimethylsiloxane, wherein the copolymers comprise aminopropyl, vinyl, mercaptopropyl, phenylmethyl, epoxy or amino-ethylaminopropyl functionalities.